PREFACE

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) in collaboration with its community partners has been charged with providing services and prevention information for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) for fourteen years. With the help of a community steering committee that met in April of 1994 the State developed what is today known as the HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG). It is the duty of this statewide planning body to inform ISDH about what is going on regarding HIV on the "street level." Through this respected exchange, our community partners are able to enter into collaboration with the Division of HIV/STD staff at the Indiana State Department of Health and make well-informed recommendations on what is needed to combat HIV within the state of Indiana. The Division is committed to working with the members of the CPG to create a comprehensive, scientifically based, statewide relevant, source-backed HIV Prevention tool that the community can utilize in order to ascertain the needed information to be unified in the fight against the spread of HIV based upon the Epidemiological Profile in Indiana.

This Plan is collaboration between groups of persevering individuals that together have made this Plan be:

- 1.) A tool that members of the community can utilize no matter what area they may be serving rural, urban, or metropolitan,
- 2.) Provide the necessary information a member of the community may need to ascertain the direction that HIV is going within the state of Indiana,
- 3.) Provide the community with the information they need to know regarding the prioritized populations and interventions,

It is an honor to work with members of the community that are so passionate, so committed, and care so much about the difficult plight of others that they dedicated their time and energies to help make a difference.

Sincerely,

Jerry V. Burkman, RN, MPH Director, Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis Indiana State Department of Health